

smarter and more sensible ways. Making ends meet through federal programs is not how people in this country want to live. The families I talk to want good paying jobs that allow them to put good, nutritious food on their table; pay for a roof over their head; and have a job that provides access to good, comprehensive healthcare. But the current federal safety net programs don't help people lift themselves out of poverty.

This bill, however, will help them do that. The National Opportunity and Community Renewal Act will award ten communities grants for five years each to test new and innovative approaches to poverty reduction. Each award is for \$10 million that must be used in ways that will reduce poverty in half over 10 years. In other words, this bill allows communities to come up with antipoverty plans while maximizing the amount of funding spent on these plans.

We know that some plans work better in urban areas than in rural areas; that fighting poverty in Central Pennsylvania is different than fighting poverty in Central Massachusetts. But that doesn't mean the goals and means are any different.

Let me be clear—no one should interpret this legislation as cut to the social safety net. During these difficult times, we must ensure that low-income families have the support they need to put food on the table, heat their homes and receive proper medical care. This legislation is a starting point in this effort, a way to begin the dialogue on ways to improve and more efficiently run our anti-poverty programs. Frankly, it's a way to start the conversation on how to cut poverty in half in 10 years; a way to shift the conversation from individual safety net programs that manage the problem to a focus on results that actually help lift people out of poverty.

We need to commit to reducing poverty, but we need to do so smartly and responsibly. We need to allow communities the flexibility to come up with plans that suit their communities and we need to properly but responsibly fund these programs.

Ultimately, we'll be judged by the results of these programs. I believe we can reduce poverty in these participating communities by half in 10 years and I'm looking forward to working Senator CASEY, Father Larry Snyder and the Catholic Charities community on this worthy project.

HONORING UKRAINIAN GENOCIDE REMEMBRANCE DAY 2010

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay homage to the 10 million innocent men, women and children who lost their lives in the Ukrainian genocide of 1932–1933. As a result of Joseph Stalin and the Soviet government's brutal economic policies, peasants were stripped of their land, herded onto collective farms, and all the food that was produced was property of the state. Due to this deprivation of food and aid, masses of Ukrainian people began to starve in what is now known as one of the greatest atrocities known to civilization: an intentional, manmade famine intended to

defeat all resistance and break the will of the Ukrainian people.

The Soviets, however, failed to account for the resilience and unbreakable spirit attributed to the people of this nation as the Ukrainians proved their strong will in emerging from an overtly oppressive regime to form a strong democratic nation. The Orange Revolution and the people of Ukraine are a true testament to the world of how a nation in dire straits can triumph over its oppressor to build a sovereign democracy.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ukrainian Genocide Remembrance Day 2010, as we shed light on the horrific effects of group-targeted acts of violence and commemorate those who suffered. It's important not to fall into the line of retroactive thinking and dismiss these instances of the worst type of groupthink as issues from the past. Regimes in power with the desire and intent to destroy national, ethnic and religious still exist in many countries around the world. The divisive will of these people is only strengthened if we choose to ignore their presence.

HONORING D.C.'S DIFFERENT DRUMMERS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating D.C.'s Different Drummers on their 30th Anniversary of providing music and entertainment for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community in Washington, D.C.

The marching band began with 9 members in the 1980s, but D.C.'s Different Drummers has grown in membership and is comprised of several marching bands that range from four to 74 players, including the Capitol Pride Symphonic Band, Capitol Pride Winds, DC Swing! big band, DCDD Marching Band, Pep Band, and several other ensembles.

D.C.'s Different Drummers are committed to creating fine music and entertainment for the community. Their annual marches in the Capital Pride Parade and the Fourth of July Palisades Parade have received significant local attention over the years, but their march in the Inaugural Parade of President Barack Obama, as part of the Lesbian and Gay Band Association, brought national attention to their excellence as well. The D.C.'s Different Drummers have marched in Pride Parades in Baltimore, Harrisburg, Fredericksburg and Durham, Maryland.

The community has benefited as well through their volunteer efforts, such as carrying banners, US/DC flags, and the like at parades.

D.C.'s Different Drummers welcome not only non-gay members and non-musicians, but also encompass people of all races, cultures, and backgrounds. They hold open, weekly rehearsals. D.C.'s Different Drummers are truly a community-oriented band with respect for all.

I have marched in Pride parades since coming to Congress to emphasize universal human rights and the importance of enacting

federal legislation to secure the same rights for the LGBT community enjoyed by others. Congress has much work to do. We must pass the Family Leave Insurance Act, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, the Domestic Partnership Benefits and Obligations Act, the Respect for Marriage Act, the Safe Schools Improvement Act, the Military Readiness Enhancement Act, the Tax Equity for Health Plan Beneficiaries Act, the Family and Medical Leave Inclusion Act, the Uniting American Families Act, and the Responsible Education About Life Act.

This year our Nation's capital joined Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire in extending equal marriage rights to its LGBT residents.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the D.C.'s Different Drummers on their 30th Anniversary.

INTRODUCING THE HAITIAN EDUCATIONAL EMPOWERMENT ACT OF 2010

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Haitian Educational Empowerment Act of 2010. This legislation will allow those students who have had their studies interrupted as a result of the January 12th earthquake to complete their degrees at a U.S. university. It will also provide grants to American universities that have taken in Haitian students so that these schools can provide necessary support services.

As we are all well aware, this past January, a 7.0 magnitude earthquake rocked the already struggling nation of Haiti. Approximately three million people were affected and 230,000 are estimated to have died. Those that survived are facing unimaginable conditions with a crumbling infrastructure that has hindered the availability of even basic necessities.

However, in addition to the massive physical devastation and loss of human life, the earthquake also dealt a devastating blow to Haiti's already struggling higher education sector. With 87 percent of Haiti's universities located in the affected region, the earthquake leveled many university buildings and killed scores of students and academics. The State University of Haiti, the nation's largest, saw 80 percent of its buildings destroyed.

Even if classes are able to resume under current conditions, many students have found that they can no longer afford to attend as they and their families struggle to recover from the earthquake. Additionally, prior to the earthquake, only 1 percent of Haitians between the ages of 18 and 24 were enrolled in a university. For many of these students, a college education was their ticket out of poverty.

Now, they have not only seen their loved ones perish and their homes reduced to rubble, but their hopes for a better future have been dashed as well. My legislation will allow these students to complete their studies while requiring them to return to the island upon completion to put their education to work.

At a time of extreme instability and crisis, the United States must do all within its power